COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THE THERAPY
AND DIAGNOSIS OF OVARIAN CANCER

5   CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/713,550, filed November 14, 2000, which is a CIP of 09/656,668, filed September 7, 2000, which is a CIP of U.S. Application No. 09/640,173, filed August 15, 2000, which is a is a CIP of U.S. Application No. 09/561,778, filed May 1, 2000, which is a

10   CIP of U.S. Application No. 09/394,374, filed September 10, 1999, all pending and incorporated by reference in their entirety herein.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates generally to ovarian cancer therapy. The

15   invention is more specifically related to polypeptides comprising at least a portion of an ovarian carcinoma protein, and to polynucleotides encoding such polypeptides, as well as antibodies and immune system cells that specifically recognize such polypeptides. Such polypeptides, polynucleotides, antibodies and cells may be used in vaccines and pharmaceutical compositions for treatment of ovarian cancer.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Ovarian cancer is a significant health problem for women in the United States and throughout the world. Although advances have been made in detection and therapy of this cancer, no vaccine or other universally successful method for prevention or

25   treatment is currently available. Management of the disease currently relies on a combination of early diagnosis and aggressive treatment, which may include one or more of a variety of treatments such as surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy and hormone therapy. The course of treatment for a particular cancer is often selected based on a variety of prognostic parameters, including an analysis of specific tumor markers. However, the use